

CRASH CHRONICLE



Volume 2 Issue 2

Summer 2004

TraCS Electronic MV4000 Field Testing to Begin

The TraCS Crash Task Force has been working on development of electronic crash report forms for the past several months. In August task force members and their IT staff were provided with an overview of the electronic crash reporting process that involves form completion at the field unit, data transmission to the agency workstation where the reports can be reviewed and stored and electronic transmission of the crash data to WisDOT.

Four agencies: the Dane County Sheriff's Office, City

of Fond du Lac Police Department, Calumet County Sheriff's Office and the Wisconsin State Patrol, have volunteered to field test the TraCS electronic crash report forms including the Wisconsin Motor Vehicle Accident Report, the Abbreviated Car/Deer, Amended, and Driver Information Exchange forms. Agency field testers and their IT staff will attend TraCS Implementation, Maintenance and User training on September 14 - 15, 2004. Along with testing the forms, the agencies will also test barcode scanners for importing driver information from 2-D barcoded drivers' licenses, Global Positioning System units for importing crash location (latitude and longitude) and in-squad printers. Field testing will run from September - December, 2004. The field test involves paper and electronic submission. Upon successful completion of the field test, task force agencies will begin submitting crash reports electronically, eliminating the need for paper reports. Statewide roll-out of TraCS will begin mid-2005.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Inside this issue:



<i>TraCS Taskforce News</i>	1
<i>Fatality Statistics</i>	2
<i>MV4000 Issues</i>	2
<i>Contact Us</i>	2



TraCS Task Force members (left to right): Mary McFarlane-WISDOT, Lt. Rick Dekker-Green Bay PD, Brian Neil-WISDOT, Carl Wilkinson-Sun Prairie PD, Trooper Jeff Zuzunaga-Wisconsin State Patrol, Deputy Leslie Lemeiux-Calumet County Sheriff's Office, Officer Joe Smith-La Crosse PD, Officer Christina Smith-Milwaukee PD, Deputy Kurt Kostuch-Marinette County Sheriff's Office, Jenny Schmidt-WISDOT, Officer Rob Duveneck-Fond du Lac PD. Not pictured — Officer Doug Fischer-Ladysmith PD, Deputy Mike Doeden-Dane County Sheriff Office

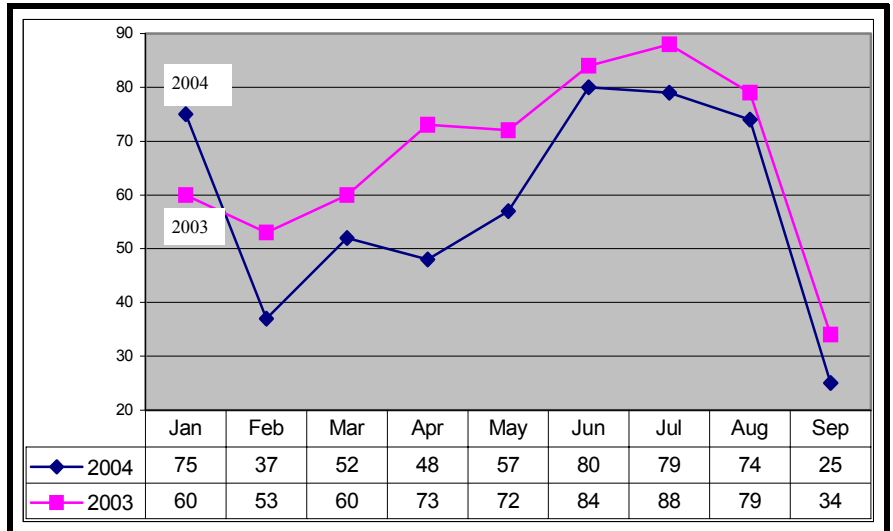


WISCONSIN TRAFFIC STATS AND FACTS



2004 FATALITIES DOWN FROM 20 YEAR HIGH SET IN 2003

The number of total crashes and traffic fatalities reported by law enforcement rose in 2003, with fatalities reaching the highest level since 1981. The preliminary numbers for 2004 are encouraging. Through the end of August, fatalities decreased by 60. However, failure to use seatbelts, speeding, and drinking and driving are still the major factors in fatal crashes. For additional fatality statistics, visit the TAS website at: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/traffic/crash/fatality.htm>



TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORTING PROBLEMS



The Traffic Accident Section (TAS) receives the Wisconsin Motor Vehicle Accident Reports (MV4000) from all law enforcement agencies. Periodically MV4000's are returned to the reporting agency due to incomplete or inconsistent data. Correcting, returning and following up on the MV4000 can be time consuming for all parties involved.

Our goal is to provide accurate and timely data to all law enforcement agencies, safety advocates and highway engineers. Your help and cooperation in achieving this goal is greatly appreciated. Please continue to check for errors prior to submitting your reports to TAS. This will prevent the need to return crash reports and save time spent making corrections.

Here are the top ten reasons for MV4000 returns:

1. Injuries in field 7 do not match injuries in fields 38 & 70.
2. Vehicle or owner information is missing.
3. Power unit not listed for trailers legally parked along highways or road-ways.
4. Incorrect date of birth or drivers license number.
5. Illegally parked vehicles.
6. Missing driver information for driverless motor vehicle accidents.
7. Incorrect vehicle information.
8. Dealer plate with owner listed as individual.
9. Double deer hit. If two vehicles hit the same deer, vehicle information is required for both vehicles.
10. Drivers listed in the driver area who are under the age of 7.



**Wisconsin Department of
Transportation, Traffic
Accident Section**

Hill Farms State Office Building
4802 Sheboygan Avenue,
Rm 804
Madison WI 53707-7919

We are on the Web!

[http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/
drivers/drivers/traffic/index.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/traffic/index.htm)

Crash Chronicle Editor: Scott A. Stary, Email: traffic-accidents.dmv@dot.state.wi.us